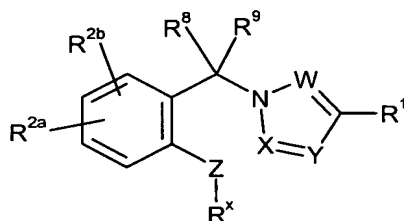


Amendments To The Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

What is claimed is:

1. (Original) A compound of formula (I):



(I)

wherein:

W represents N or CR¹⁰ wherein R¹⁰ represents hydrogen, halogen, optionally substituted alkyl, optionally substituted aryl, or optionally substituted heterocyclyl;

X represents N or CR¹¹ wherein R¹¹ represents hydrogen, halogen, optionally substituted alkyl, optionally substituted aryl, or optionally substituted heterocyclyl;

Y represents N or CR¹² wherein R¹² represents hydrogen, halogen, CH₃ or CF₃;

Z represents O, S, SO or SO₂;

R¹ represents CO₂R⁴, CONR⁵R⁶, CH₂CO₂H, optionally substituted SO₂alkyl, SO₂NR⁵R⁶, NR⁵CONR⁵R⁶, 2H-tetrazol-5-yl-methyl or optionally substituted heterocyclyl;

R^{2a} and R^{2b} independently represents hydrogen, halo, optionally substituted alkyl, optionally substituted alkoxy, CN, SO₂alkyl, SR⁵, NO₂, optionally substituted aryl, CONR⁵R⁶ or optionally substituted heteroaryl;

R^x represents optionally substituted alkyl wherein 1 or 2 of the non-terminal carbon atoms are optionally substituted by a group independently selected from NR⁴, O and SO_n, wherein n is 0, 1 or 2: or R^x represents optionally substituted CQ^aQ^b-heterocyclyl, optionally substituted CQ^aQ^b-bicyclic heterocyclyl or optionally substituted CQ^aQ^b-aryl;

R⁴ represents hydrogen or an optionally substituted alkyl;

R⁵ represents hydrogen or an optionally substituted alkyl;

R⁶ represents hydrogen or optionally substituted alkyl, optionally substituted heteroaryl, optionally substituted SO₂aryl, optionally substituted SO₂alkyl, optionally substituted SO₂heteroaryl, CN, optionally substituted CQ^aQ^baryl, optionally substituted CQ^aQ^bheteroaryl or COR⁷;

R⁷ represents hydrogen, optionally substituted alkyl, optionally substituted heteroaryl or optionally substituted aryl;

R⁸ and R⁹ are independently selected from hydrogen, fluorine or alkyl, or R⁸ and R⁹ together with the carbon to which they are attached form a cycloalkyl ring, optionally containing up to one heteroatom selected from O, S, NH or N-alkyl;

wherein Q^a and Q^b are each independently selected from hydrogen, CH₃ and fluorine;

or a derivative thereof.

2. (Original) A compound according to claim 1 wherein the five membered ring comprising W, X and Y is pyrrole or pyrazole.

3. (Currently Amended) A compound according to claim 1 ~~or claim 2~~ wherein R¹ is CO₂H.

4. (Canceled).

5. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to ~~any one of~~ claims 1 to 4 or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof together with a pharmaceutical carrier and/or excipient.

6. – 7. (Canceled).

8. (Currently Amended) A method of treating a human or animal subject suffering from a condition which is mediated by the action of PGE₂ at EP₁

receptors which comprises administering to said subject an effective amount of a compound according to ~~any one of~~ claims 1 ~~to~~ 4 or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof.

9. (Currently Amended) A method of treating a human or animal subject suffering from inflammatory pain, neuropathic pain or visceral pain which method comprises administering to said subject an effective amount of a compound according to ~~any one of~~ claims 1 ~~to~~ 4 or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof.

10. – 11. (Canceled).

12. (New) The method of claim 8, wherein the subject is a human.

13. (New) The method of claim 9, wherein the subject is a human.

14. (New) A method of mediating EP₁ receptors, comprising the step of administering an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof.